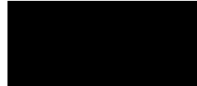


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COUNTRY Romania REPORT NO. TOPIC Rumanian "Tudor Vladimirescu" Tank Corps

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General

1. The Rumanian "Tudor Vladimirescu" Tank Corps was the unit considered most reliable by the Rumanian regime. (1) The CG was Major General Mireea Haupt, a career officer, who was a trusted member of the Communist Party, and was formerly a PW of the U.S.S.R. (2) The political CO was Lieutenant Colonel Edga Gata who was not a regular officer but was a trusted member of the Communist Party. The chief of staff was Colonel Constantin Neiculescu (possibly incorrectly spelled, who was not a party member but was regular officer without general staff training. The chief of 3rd section (Operations Section) was Lieutenant Colonel Gh. Popescu, an infantry officer who was not a party member.

Organization and Equipment

2. The following units belonged to the "Tudor Vladimirescu" Tank Corps. Each tank brigade consisted of three tank battalions.
  - a. 2nd Tank Brig. The Co was Colonel Gh. Mihaescu, an infantry officer, who was not faithful to the regime. Captain Gh. Staicu, a convinced Communist, was the political officer.
  - b. 9th Tank Brig in Bucharest, commanded by Colonel Louis Toescu. The political CO was Captain Milutescu (possibly Milusescu, (fmu). Lieutenant Colonel Zanescu, (fmu), was the Chief of Staff.
  - c. 11th Tank Brig in Pitesti. (3)
  - d. 4th Ltz Inf Brig in Bucharest, commanded by Colonel Nicolau, (fmu). The brigade consisted of an unidentified number of motorized infantry battalions numbering 500 to 600 men each.
  - e. 1st Ltz Arty Regt in Bucharest
  - f. 10th SP Arty Regt (Rumanian: Regiment 10 Auto-tunuri) in Pitesti. The regiment was equipped with 76.2-mm guns. (4)

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- g. 8th Mort Bn in Bucharest, equipped with 24 Soviet 120-mm mortars.
  - h. 40th Tank Bn in Targoviste (5).
  - i. 41st Tank Bn in Targu Mures (R 36/R 68) (6)
  - j. 42d Tank Bn in Tulcea (R 53/Z 82)
  - k. Sig Bn in Bucharest
  - l. Recon Bn (Rumanian: Batl. de cercetare) in Bucharest
  - m. Mtrcl Bn in Bucharest
  - n. AT Arty Bn at an unspecified post; it is equipped with eighteen 75-mm AT guns
  - o. Engr Bn in Bucharest
3. The T/E provided for 100 tanks for each tank brigade. In early June 1950, however, the Rumanian Army had only 30 Soviet T34/85 tanks and 60 Soviet 76.2-mm guns, all of which had been delivered in December 1949. (7)

Training

4. The standard of training for the regular officers was adequate, but there was a shortage of tank and artillery officers. The 1948-1950 officer candidates were from the working class and had only elementary school education. Most of the young officers were Communist Party members. Two hundred young officers of the corps had been selected for advanced training in the U.S.S.R. About 25 percent of the older officers were loyal to the regime. The EI lacked training and discipline. About 25 to 30 percent of the EI in active service were loyal to the regime.
5. The training program of the tank corps provided for a 2-month summer exercise in the Brasov-Fagaras-Sibiu area. Soviet military advisers were supervising the training. Soviet Lieutenant Colonel Salkovikov, (fn), was responsible for the training of the tank corps.

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Comments.

- (1) Most of this information on the tank corps is considered correct, although source has not yet been tested. The designation "tank corps" appeared for the first time in August 1949 (see (Mil) [redacted]). It was said that the corps was stationed in the Bucharest-Pitesti-Ploesti area, Rumanian newspapers simultaneously mentioned the "Tudor Vladimirescu" Tank Corps. It was assumed therefore, that what was previously identified, as the 1st "Tudor Vladimirescu" Tank Div had been reorganized into a tank corps. This assumption was confirmed to some extent by [redacted]. It seems possible that also the 2d "Moria Cloaca si Crisan" Mtz Inf Div may have been absorbed into the tank corps. This assumption is based on the lack of any credible reports on this division since the Summer of 1949. 25X1A
- (2) Haupt was already identified as commanding general of the Tank Corps in a previous report. See (Mil) [redacted]. 25X1A
- (3) Because of mistakes in transmission and the illegibility of the report received the figures are not reliable. It is, however, that the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Tank Brigade belong to the Tank Corps. The 9th Tank Brig reported here is possibly the 3rd Tank Brig, and the 11th Tank Brig is possibly the 1st Tank Brig.
- (4) Probably of Soviet type SU-76.

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- (5) One report mentioned the 3rd Tank Regt in Targoviste in 1949, and another report mentioned the 1st Tank Regt in Targoviste in May 1950. See (Mil) [REDACTED]. The two reports are still doubted. It has not yet been established whether the tank battalions are independent headquarters units of the tank corps or components of the tank brigades mentioned.
- (6) Tank units of the "Tudor Vladimirescu" Tank Div were observed in Targu Mures in July and August 1949. See (Mil) [REDACTED]. These units have possibly formed the 41st Tank Bn. 25X1A
- (7) The information is believed correct. In comparison with other satellite countries, Rumania has received only limited quantities of Soviet material.

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